

VALUABLE HICKORY TIMBER GROWS SCATTERINGLY OVER LARGE AREAS



Group of Hickories—Pignut in the Center, Shagbark on the Sides—Putnam County, Tennessee.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)
Hickory timber, although held in seemingly vast amount by the forests of the country, may soon become insufficient to meet American manufacturing and woodworking needs. The increasing demand for this valuable species, together with the scattered character of its growth in the forest, has resulted in merchantable stands becoming more and more inaccessible and difficult to log.

Stands Are Widely Scattered.
The Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, puts the country's present supply of hickory, distributed through 200,000,000 acres of forests, at 15,784,000,000 board feet. Of this the Central states have 1,791,000,000 feet, the lower Mississippi states 3,171,000,000 feet, the South Atlantic and East Gulf states 3,183,000,000 feet, the Middle Atlantic states 412,000,000 board feet, the Lake states 187,000,000 feet, and the New England states 40,000,000 feet.

One of the uses to which hickory is put is in the manufacture of spokes for automobile wheels. The yearly demand upon the hickory reserves by this industry alone is tremendous, as there is much waste in getting the select stock necessary not only for spokes but also the rims of wheels.

Industries Compete for Hickory.
For the most part vehicle and agricultural implement industries compete with the handle industry for hickory and ash. These are located mainly in the Middle West, but now derive most of their wood supplies from the South. A large number of far-sighted organizations purchased more or less extensive hardwood tracts some years ago, from which they are now able to draw at least a part of their wood supplies. To secure hickory, which grows scatteringly over large areas, the vehicle and vehicle-implement industries originally maintained extensive buying, logging, and milling organizations in the South. They draw upon every conceivable source—farmers' woodlots, small mills, large sawmills, and even specialized operations designed to secure hickory alone. These concerns in general carry in stock about a two years' supply of special-dimension stock.

Makers of automobile wheels say that they can still get the material required if they make sufficient effort and pay the price, but it is necessary to go farther and farther away for it. Many inquiries received by the forest service from vehicle implement makers, requesting information on possible substitutes for the woods used in vehicle making, is merely another indication of the difficulties in getting adequate supplies at the present time and of uncertainty as to the future.

Ten Different Kinds of Hickories.
Hickory is often referred to as if it were a single species, like red gum or yellow poplar. In reality there are 10 different kinds of hickory trees. For hickory-handle purposes those known as true hickories are most valuable. The pecan hickories include the water, nutmeg, and bitter nut varieties. The true hickories comprise shagbark, pig shellbark, pignut, and mocker nut. The handle industry is largely dependent on this last group of trees for its raw material.

The annual consumption of hickory by the handle trade is something over 120,000,000 feet board measure. Little, if any, of this material passes through the sawmills, for it is ordinarily cut and shipped to the handle factories in the form of log bolts or billets. All hickories do not give the same service when made into handles. The various parts of the same tree may show different properties, and the quality of the wood near the center is quite likely to differ from that nearer the bark.

The wood of the butt of a young hickory tree is of greater average toughness than it is when the tree is old. The wood of butt cuts of both old and young trees is tougher than that cut higher up the trunk. The handle manufacturers, for the most part, demand second-growth hickory, which consists of young stock of rapid growth.

Best Material for Handles.
Hickory is the best known material for certain classes of tool handles, such as the ax, adz, pick, hammer, and

hatchet. There is a certain strength, toughness and elasticity to hickory which nature has denied to other commercial woods. Some are stronger, many are harder, but the rare combination of the qualities mentioned is lacking in all of them.

The raw material for handles in the form of short log bolts is sometimes split into handle blanks in the woods, but the usual practice is to rip-saw the bolts into blanks at the factory. The split-handle blank is considered superior to the sawed blank in that it insures a straight-grain handle. On the other hand, sawed blanks, though they are likely to show more cross grain, are more economical in the use of timber.

Hickory, due to its unrivaled properties of great strength, elasticity, and resiliency, is used exclusively in the manufacture of handles of golf clubs. The constantly increasing popularity of this sport has placed another demand on the hickory supply.

KEEP CONTAINERS UP TO THEIR FULL SIZE

"Short" Baskets Due to Lack of Proper Inspection.

Manufacturers Are Ready to Correct Any Defects Pointed Out by Department of Agriculture—Shippers Blamed.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)
A "short" tomato basket masquerading as a 4-quart till basket. The United States Department of Agriculture picks up the scent. On the "trail of the troublesome till" the chase is called.

Partly through a desire to conform to the wishes of the shippers and partly because of failure to have the basket forms inspected frequently, containers far short of the standard measure were being made. Short-measure till baskets for fruits and vegetables are frequently the result of careless handling of the forms used in manufacturing the containers, the department points out. Dropping the forms on the floor or otherwise mishandling them can easily knock them out of shape.

Forms and containers of numerous basket manufacturers in the United States are inspected as often as possible by the department, and the experience has been that the manufacturers are ready to correct any defects in a desire to turn out baskets of standard size. But the department cannot get around to all manufacturers, who are therefore being urged to have their forms frequently inspected and to submit samples of their output to the department to be tested. If the shippers generally would also appreciate the desirability of uniform containers, the standardization of containers would be a simple matter, says the department.

SOY BEAN GOOD CATCH CROP

Regular Practice at Missouri Agricultural College and Is Very Successful.

The growing of soy beans as a catch crop after wheat is a regular practice at the Missouri agricultural experiment station and has been very successful. Under some conditions the catch crop is worth as much as the main crop. The beans can be cut for hay in plenty of time for fall seeding of wheat.

PRODUCTION OF CLOVER SEED

Crop for 1922 Expected to Be Larger Than Last Year—Not as Heavy as 1918.

The 1922 production of crimson clover seed is expected to be larger than last year's small crop, although it will not approach the heavy production of 1918 and 1919, according to reports received by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Beechwood Farms Hampshires

HERD BOAR, BEECHWOOD WICKWARE
GRAND-SON OF INTERNATIONAL GRAND CHAMPION

The sow herd includes: two daughters of Cornhusker Lad 35011, a son of the famous Lookout Lad, an International grand champion that sold for \$5,000; one daughter, Lookout O'Henry, the show boar that was defeated only by the 1921 National Swine Show grandchampion, General Pershing.

Two daughters of Lookout Cornhusker 3rd, and grand-son of the Champion Lookout Lad; two daughters of Lookout Tipton Climax, son of Lookout Cornhusker 3rd; one daughter of the National Swine Show Champion 1921, General Pershing, and several others.

FOUR YEARS THE BEST

MEAT TYPE HAMPSHIRE

The International Live Stock Show is the test of hog-producing power. Hampshires have won the grand championship in this test four years in succession—1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, in the hands of average farmers. No experts needed to make Hampshires win.

Hampshires are the greatest of all forage hogs, making the highest-priced pork out of the cheapest feeds on the farm. Active, vigorous and healthy they raise exceptionally large litters. At the International they have shown, almost without exception, the heaviest spring pigs of any breed, carrying always the heavy, high killing lean meat type.

The foundation animals of Beechwood Farms herd was selected from the leading Hampshire Herds of the country and includes only good individuals of the leading families of the breed.

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We have a large crop of spring pigs, of either sex that are priced right. Write us your wants and inspect our herd.

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LANCASTER, KY.

Smith, Jones and Mabel

By MORRIS SCHULTZ

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Smith and Jones were government clerks at Washington, but they were no ordinary clerks. They were high up in the scale. Smith was in the war office and Jones had something to do with the Philippines.

Now for some unfortunate oversight what happened was this: Smith's department was conducting a neat little warfare against a bandit tribe in the mountains, ignorant of the fact that Jones' department was subsidizing the same tribe for being good boys and not interfering with their neighbors.

In other words, while Smith was backing Bandit Borriboola-Gha with arms and ammunition, to keep Bandit Wanka-Bongho in order, Jones was backing Wanka-Bongho to sit on Borriboola-Gha and keep the lid down.

They discovered it quite by accident one night when talking over things at their boarding house on Avenue W.

It was no ordinary boarding house. It was the best boarding house in the world, because Mabel White lived there. Mabel was only a typist, but such a kind girl! Everybody loved her. Smith loved her to desperation, and Jones loved her to distraction. There was also a vulgar fellow, a mere manufacturer, living there because he was a widower; but, as he was fifty, it was evident that Mabel's interest in him was purely sympathy. "What are we going to do about it?" asked Smith.

"Oh, do tell me!" said Mabel, who was interested in things.

"Why, there's an infernal trouble started," said Smith. "This idiot has been supplying arms and ammunition to Wanka-Bongho to raid his peaceful, law-abiding neighbor, Borriboola-Gha."

"Nothing of the sort!" shouted Jones indignantly. "That lunatic has been supplying arms and ammunition to that cannibal, Borriboola-Gha to raid the territories of our ally, Wanka-Bongho!"

"But how perfectly thrilling!" exclaimed Mabel. "Do tell me who you think will win?"

"Borriboola-Gha, of course," said Smith haughtily.

"Wanka-Bongho, without doubt," said Jones with icy indifference.

"Then you two boys are really at war with each other," said Mabel softly; and her glance was so full of meaning that each of them realized instantly that the winner in the tribal feud was the winner of Mabel's heart.

From that time on Smith and Jones regarded each other as deadly enemies. They pored over each item of news from the Philippines that reached their respective departments. Of course the government realized the mistake it had made, but there was nothing to be done about it now.

Smith's heart leaped up one day when he was able to tell Mabel, in Jones' presence, that Borriboola-Gha's outposts had brought in two heads of Wanka-Bongho's men.

That night Mabel looked unmistakably like Smith's, but the very next afternoon news arrived that Wanka-Bongho's men had eaten three of Borriboola-Gha's; and the look that Mabel cast at Jones when she heard the glad tidings, drove Smith to desperation.

For weeks, it was touch and go. Now Borriboola-Gha's men would capture two calves and a dozen eggs from Wanka-Bongho's village, and Smith would take Mabel to the movies; then Wanka-Bongho's men would bring back the noses and a couple of eyebrows from Borriboola-Gha's villages, and Jones and Mabel would eat ice cream on the stoop together, while Smith gnashed his teeth in his bedroom.

All the boarding house knew of the feud and scanned the papers with absorbing interest to learn the latest news from the Philippines. The only exception was the manufacturer, who cast sour, dour glances at everybody from his motor car.

It was a 12-cylinder roadster with silver fittings. Mabel adored automobiles.

The evening came when Smith and Jones met at the boarding house and ceased to frown at each other. Terrible things had happened.

"To think that traitor Borriboola-Gha should have joined your cannibal and turned his arms on the whites!" sighed Smith. "I wonder where Mabel is."

"I can't understand that scoundrel Wanka-Bongho's joining your degraded ape-man against the whites," sighed Jones. "Has anybody seen Miss Mabel?"

"Oh, gentlemen, have you heard the news?" asked little Miss Ormerod, bursting into the room. "Miss White's eloped with Mr. Pihoney, and they were married this afternoon!"

"Divorces While You Wait"

Chicago, Rhode Island, Reno and all other American divorce resorts must yield the palm to Burma for the facility, economy and expedition with which matrimonial knots can be untied. When "on the road to Mandalay," a Burmese couple have agreed to separate, they simply light two candles, one for each, and watch and wait to see whose candle first burns down. The one whose fate has thus been decided leaves forever the common home; the unfortunate one cannot take away anything but the clothes on his or her person. The other becomes the sole proprietor of the entire common property.